



Apply for Dairy 30x20 Grants by March 15

Release Date: March 4, 2013

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MADISON – Take your plan to be more profitable or modernize your farm to the next level by applying for the Growing Wisconsin Dairy 30x20 Initiative financial assistance. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) reminds dairy farmers that grant applications are due by 4:30 p.m. on March 15.

The purpose of this funding is to provide support and technical assistance to all dairy farmers, regardless of type or size, to improve their operation. Funding is available for projects up to \$5,000. Farmers need to provide 20% in matching funds.

Funding is flexible and customizable to farmer needs. There are two categories of financial assistance available: Dairy Profit and Planning & Preparation.

Dairy Profit grants will bring together an on-farm team to identify opportunities to improve the day-to-day management of the farm to increase profitability. Examples of Dairy Profit Teams are: forming a nutrition plan, managing herd health, planning for managed grazing, transitioning to organic, implementing new technology or meeting environmental challenges.

Planning & Preparation grants will assist farmers who are considering a change in business structure or investment in facilities. Funding could be used for: financial analysis, transition planning, farm transfers, business planning or professional service costs related to siting, engineering or design.

Last March, Governor Scott Walker announced this financial assistance as part of the Grow Wisconsin Dairy 30x20 Initiative to improve the long-term viability of Wisconsin's dairy industry. The goal of this Initiative is to produce 30 billion pounds annually by 2020 to meet the growing demand of the marketplace. Wisconsin dairy producers produced a record-breaking 27.2 billion pounds of milk in 2012.

The Grow Wisconsin Dairy 30x20 Initiative offers dairy farmers a 'one stop shop' to receive support year-round through a toll-free number at 855-WI DAIRY (855-943-2479) or email

GrowWisconsinDairy@wi.gov. Additional information and application materials are available at GrowWisconsinDairy.wi.gov.

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